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Speech for Herbert Hoover in Miamisburg, Ohio

Katharine Kennedy Brown

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Mr. Chairman and Fellow Republicans:-

Eight years ago --a few months after the women of Ohio had been enfranchised, I had the privilege of appearing before you here in Miamisburg, and I am most happy to be here tonight to see many of you with whom I have worked during the interval, and to talk with you for a time about that great American and patriot Herbert Hoover.

Let us consider for a time, calmly and dispassionately, what manner of man he is, and how he qualifies for the greatest position in the world to-day, for although I feel that it is presumptuous for any of us with limited experience, to sit and attempt to estimate the qualifications of such a man, still it is our duty and privilege to know as much as possible about the various candidates for the Presidency.

If it were a mere hypothetical problem, and you had no one candidate in mind, but were to ~~sit~~ write down the things which first come to your mind as necessary qualifications of a man to hold this office, would they not be these ?

First to meet the requirements as laid down by our Constitution .

Second we should love to feel that he possessed all the traditions and that he have the background of a real American.

Third that he have the character which commands universal respect.

Fourth that ~~he~~ have more ability than any other man, and that we have definite proof from past experience of such ability.

Fifth that he have ability to organize and ~~handle~~ ^{lead} thousands and tens of thousands of people-

Sixth that those people have complete confidence in him, as they have in Calvin Coolidge

Seventh, that in this day and age of constant communication and contacts with foreign nations, that he have a knowledge of world affairs so that he may be in a position to safeguard our own country, from foreign interference and dictation.

These at least are some of the major requirements for a President in ~~this~~ this year 1928/,

Let us see how near our choice comes to these requirements:

1. The requirements as laid down in the Constitution-
He meets them all/ I have heard the opposition question only one of these, and that is his residence in the U.S. 14 years. He meets that too, for though he has served us in Europe as did our Soldier boys, or as does that great son of Ohio, Myron Herrick at the present time, he has returned always and lived amongst us the full time and more though not consecutively.
2. ^{again} I hope that tomorrow will be a bright sunny day, and that when you take your Sunday afternoon drive, you will come up through Dayton and following Main Street out to the Covington Pike, that you will go about 18 Miles northward to the village of West Milton. If you do, you will find there, the house in which Herbert Hoover's father was born. It stands on the Butler Rd, or "Butter Rd" as the neighbors call it, and is occupied to-day by Phillip Lochner. The house is located on the original tract owned by the Hoover family in Miami Co.
Pioneering from North Carolina, through Maryland and W Virginia, four generations of men breaking the resistance of an untamed continent- destroying a wilderness to build a republic. That is the ancestry of Herebrt Hoover. His grandmother, Rebecca Yount, was noted for her indomitable strength of purpose, her capacity for work, and an extraordinary executive ability. She bore and reared nine children and adopted 19 more. She was noted as a housekeeper of Miami Co, her cured meats, homespun linen and patchwork quilts were famous in the country-~~side~~ side. Nor did her duties end with her household and the care of 28 children. She was a Friend, of the Society of Friends and for many years she was an Elder and addressed the Yearly Meeting.

The meeting-house still stands, divided in the center by a partition to separate the men and women's assemblies. The house is fast decaying, but enough is left, together with the small graveyard in which 16 of the Hoover family are buried, to recall to us the fact that Herbert Hoover is a Grandson of Ohio. The records show that his father and grandfather received a transfer from the Society of Friends of this Village, to the town of Red Cedar Iowa, whence they moved in 1854.,

Herbert Hoover was born in West Branch Iowa, Aug. 10, 1874.

I ^{my} have mentioned these things to ^{my} answer those who try to throw a smoke-screen before us, and blind us to the fact that the story of Herbert Hoover's life and ancestry, is as real as America, that the forces which made our country made the man, and that behind t

the growth of his soul, there is shown the growth of this nation.

His mother died while he was still quite young, and an Aunt and Uncle brought him up. He was to Stanford University in California, just as the walls of that great college were finished, and he worked his way through college, collecting and distributing the laundry for his classmates, or organizing the student body in their various extra-curriculum pursuits.

He emerged a graduate engineer, and you have followed him in his travels the world over, in these mighty projects which he has undertaken

I have not the time to mention them even, but in each and everyone his success has been marked..

One thing is ever coming to the front, his remarkable ability for organizing. And his opponents say, what will become of the Republican Part if he should be its leader. Well, I have this to suggest, if his Department of Commerce, which was the most insignificant in the List of departments, when he took it over, is an example of what he can do The REPUBLICAN PART two years hence will be the most remarkable example of an efficiently operating organization that it has ever been in the history of this country.

My sixth point was the confidence of the people in him. That to-day is unquestioned. As Calvin Coolidge has entrusted to him every tremendous job, the meeting of emergencies in which lives and dollars were at stake, so the American people turn to him in time of stress.

The Primary -- explain its purpose.

Campaign of villification.

Answer some of charges --

His Republicanism.

Michigan Ballot etc.

New York Republican Club.

Harding Coolidge Cabinet Member.

More Speeches than any Cabinet Member

Willis speech at Springfield.

His Americanism

His Price-Fixing

Judge Routzohn Will

Tell of Brand's letter

The Organization

Republican Party Leaders

We are members of Executive Committee

Talk with all members of both committees

and see how they feel.

Explain Ballot.

As I thought over the reason, which I mentioned in the beginning of this talk, for an eight years interval, since I stood here before you, and realized that during that time, both you and I had been continuously active in Republican Party affairs, I began to wonder why we had had no such meetings in the meantime. The reason for that is on the lips of thousands of people-- all over this country to-day and it is just this--

Now, for the first time in the history of Ohio, the women have an opportunity to express their choice for President in a Presidential Preference Primary. Tuesday next, is the first time in our history that the country may listen and learn, how much interest the women of Ohio take in the naming of a President of the U.S.

When I stood here 8 years ago, it was high unto November-- the April Primary had come and gone with only the men voting, as suffrage did not come until late summer and the primary was in April

Calvin Coolidge was unopposed in 1924.

Now, on Tuesday, the nation waits to see your action, for in your hands lies 40 % of the entire vote of the State.

What will be your answer ?

You are not handicapped, you are not hindered from voting by the necessity of taking an elevator to the 4th floor of a downtown office building, and standing in line for your turn to come, in order to vote, as were the people of Dayton yesterday why, because the leader of the anti-Hoover forces so feared the tremendous Hoover sentiment and vote in Montgomery County, that he tried to check it by making registration difficult nay, almost impossible.

Well, fellow Republicans you are not so easily deceived.

You of Miamisburg, are free, and on Tuesday, no man will tell you what you may do, but you will go to the polls, and show the world how you feel.

If, as I firmly believe, thousands of you want Herbert Hoover for President, as thousands and tens of thousands of fine Americans from

Maine to California are demanding to have him, then no petty politicians, for selfish gain will stop you-- but you will register in no uncertain terms your wishes, and your votes will be cast at Kansas City to put him in the White House.